Parade

PRESENTS

1973

the STORIES behind the year's GREATEST HITS,

FROM "LET'S GET IT ON" TO "PIANO MAN"

ONE ISSUE ONLY! sunday, january 1, 2023

featuring

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

BILLY JOEL

CHER

GLADYS KNIGHT

PLUS
HAPPY NEW YEAR
from
PARADE
p. 6

MARVIN GAYE

ALSO AEROSMITH

AND SPECIAL GUEST STEVIE WONDER

VISIT…

LANZAROTE
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TheStreet

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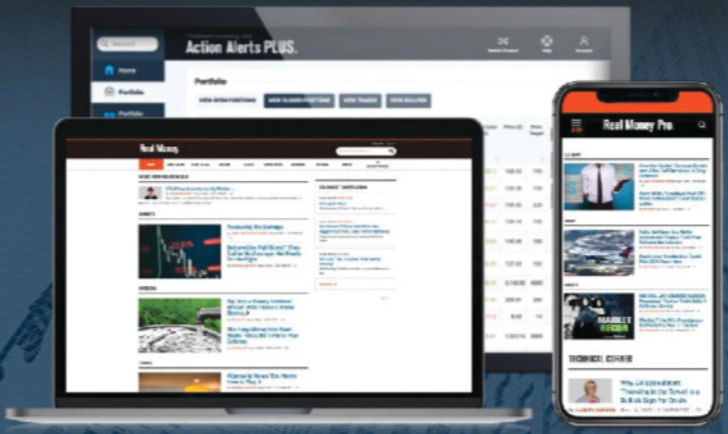

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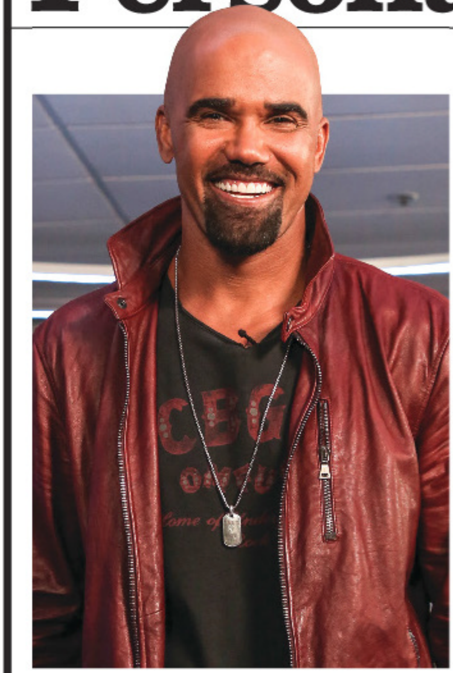

Walter Scott Asks...

SHEMAR MOORE

The former *Criminal Minds* and *The Young and the Restless* star, 52, continues his role as Daniel "Hondo" Harrelson when *S.W.A.T.* returns from its mid-season break (Jan. 6 on CBS). The series centered on the special LAPD SWAT team led by Hondo will continue to address modern-day issues, but also take viewers home for a look at the softer side of Hondo as he prepares to become a first-time father.

Playing Hondo, is there a responsibility that you feel to the LAPD or to the Black community in how he's portrayed? Yes, there's a pressure and a huge responsibility to stay Black, to be proud of your Blackness, but also not to be anti-other; white or any other. I've lived my life seeing color, because I'm not blind, but not judging by color, judging by character. So, I'm with you until you do me wrong, regardless of what color you are, and that's how I live my life. I like that I'm able to incorporate that into Hondo. His father said to him in the pilot, "If you want things to change then you've got to go out there and be the change." It's difficult, and sometimes seemingly impossible, but if you quit, then nothing changes. If you don't quit, then change is possible. So, that's the mentality of Hondo, and myself, in life.

Will Hondo change now that he's going to be a dad? You'll definitely see a softer side of him. You're going to see the vulnerabilities, and—all of a sudden—the questions and the concerns that he's never had to worry about. He's always fended for himself and put other lives ahead of his own. So now you're going to see Hondo dealing with trying to be the team leader and his alpha male ways, taking on the bad guys by any means necessary. But now he's worried, will he abandon his child? Will he have a child that doesn't have a father? And what's he going to do to avoid that?

Any chance Debbie Allen might return to her role as Hondo's mom? She's a busy lady, as is Obba Babatundé, who plays my father. I know Obba texts me at least twice a week going, "When's Daddy coming home?" But yes, of course, I'm sure we're going to see a whole kumbaya moment of family togetherness celebrating the birth of Hondo Jr.

Talk about the balance—as you always say in the show—between Black and blue. Hondo was born in South L.A., which is inner city, which is the hood. From the pilot, he's got one foot in law enforcement, and the demands and the politics of it, but he insists and prides himself on keeping another foot at home.

There was a great line in the pilot where another Black man confronting Hondo said, "Are you Black or blue?" So, Hondo struggles with: Do I have to be one or the other? If I'm a cop, does that make me a sellout to my people, to my community? Or can Hondo do both, to where he can create a little more patience, truce, peace and understanding, and bridge the gap of a lot of the fears and ill wills and conflict between civilians—especially the Black community—and police officers.

What kind of training did the team undergo prior to Season 1? Before the pilot, we had three months of training by San Diego PD SWAT, LAPD SWAT, and SEAL Team Six members, so we did serious training so that we could look and move like a well-oiled machine because that's what they do in real life.

What we're doing is not real, but we take a lot of pride in emulating the real men and women of law enforcement. We only do what is really done in the real world, protecting citizens on the screen. We never go over the top like you may see in movies like *Fast and Furious*, things like that. We keep it 100 percent authentic to how SWAT deals with chasing down bad guys.

What is it like on the set? The cast loves each other. We are like a close-knit family. The camaraderie and the chemistry that you see from the cast, that's how we are in real life. They come over to my house, I go over to theirs. We go to Jay Harrington's pizza shop and watch *S.W.A.T.* and football games. People come to my house and swim, play cornhole, play pool and just hangout and watch the games. We have Sunday fun days and things like that. P

FROM LEFT: PAUL ARCHULETA/GETTY IMAGES; SONJA FLEMMING/CBS

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The Parade Don't Miss List

Here's what's on our entertainment radar for the week ahead. Go to ***Parade.com/entertainment*** for more.

WILL TRENT

JAN. 3 ON ABC

Following in the footsteps of previous books turned into TV series, like Michael Connelly's *Bosch* and Lee Child's *Reacher*, comes Karin Slaughter's *Will Trent*, based on her *New York Times* bestselling series about the special agent with the Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI), who was abandoned at birth and endured a harsh coming-of-age in Atlanta's overwhelmed foster care system. Now grown, Will is assigned some of the GBI's most difficult cases because his unique perspective on life—plus the skills he has learned to help cope with his dyslexia—has made him the agent with the highest clearance rate.

"Will is a real loner," said **Ramón Rodríguez**, 43, who plays the title role. "He's someone that doesn't work with people very well, but I think he's got a real big heart."

Will's dyslexia is not something that he easily shares with others, but his boss Amanda Wagner (**Sonja Sohn**) and his partner Faith (Iantha Richardson) are aware of the workarounds he employs because of his difficulties reading. "We quickly learn and see his skills when he's on a crime scene, specifically how he's able to look at things and pick things up visually and that's primarily because he's dyslexic," Rodríguez says.

AGT: ALL STARS

JAN. 2 ON NBC

"This feels like the Super Bowl," said **Howie Mandel**, 67. "We have a great league here at AGT. I've watched people win and I've watched people's lives change and I've watched their career changes. Now they've come together from all over the world and from all different levels to compete again." That's right, *America's Got Talent*, which is normally a summer series, is going to ring in the New Year with a new twist on the show, which will bring together 60 winners, finalists, fan favorites and viral sensations from the series' franchises around the world to compete for the All-Stars title.

Each of the six weeks of the series, ten acts—including singers, dancers, ventriloquists, comedians, aerialists, magicians and more—perform for the judges for the chance to earn one of the coveted Golden Buzzers which automatically moves them to the finale. Then, the AGT Superfans will also vote each week on one additional act to move on to the finals.

Mandel is back as a judge along with **Simon Cowell**, 63, and **Heidi Klum**, 49. Sofia Vergara is sitting out this round due to prior commitments, which means that with **Terry Crews**, 54 returning as host, Klum is the only female in the group. "Obviously I miss my Sofia because we have our girly moments," Klum said. "You have a different thing with a woman in a way than with two boys, but I have a lot of fun with them too."

THE 80TH GOLDEN GLOBES CEREMONY

JAN. 10 ON NBC

The awards show is back after a couple of controversial and COVID-y years. One reason to tune in? **Eddie Murphy**, 61, will receive this year's special award. "We're honored to present this year's Cecil B. DeMille Award to the iconic and highly esteemed Mr. Eddie Murphy," HFPA President, Helen Hoehne said. "We're thrilled to be celebrating the lasting impact on film and television that his career—in front of and behind the camera—has had through the decades." Jane Fonda, Tom Hanks, George Clooney, Robert De Niro, Steven Spielberg and Audrey Hepburn are past honorees. Murphy, who has shone in such films as *Dolemite Is My Name*, *48 Hours*, *Trading Places* and *Coming to America*, has been nominated for a Golden Globe six times and won the Best Supporting Actor in a motion picture award for *Dreamgirls* in 2007.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ABC/KIM SIMMS; SAMI DRASIN/NBC (4); HOLLYWOOD FOREIGN PRESS; MARK SAGLIOCCO/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES

LOOK WHO (AND WHAT) IS TURNING 50!

1973 was a very good year for movies, inventions and babies who would grow up to be stars.

TORI SPELLING
Born May 16
Los Angeles, Calif.

JAMES MARSDEN
Born Sept. 18
Stillwater, Okla.

LENA HEADEY
Born Oct. 3
Hamilton, Bermuda

KATHRYN HAHN
Born July 23
Westchester, Ill.

MICHAEL EALY
Born Aug. 3
Silver Spring, Md.

VERA FARMIGA
Born Aug. 6
Clifton, N.J.

DAVE CHAPPELLE
Born Aug. 24
Washington, D.C.

MARIO LOPEZ
Born Oct. 10
San Diego, Calif.

TYRA BANKS
Born Dec. 4
Inglewood, Calif.

RACHEL MADDOW
Born April 1
Castro Valley, Calif.

ANDREW LINCOLN
Born Sept. 14
London, England

NEIL PATRICK HARRIS
Born June 15
Albuquerque, N.M.

HEIDI KLUM
Born June 1, Bergisch
Gladbach, Germany

ADRIEN BRODY
Born April 14
Woodhaven, New York

THE STING

It was big entertainment news 50 years ago when actors **Paul Newman** and **Robert Redford** and director **George Roy Hill**—the trio behind the popular *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*—got back together for this 1973 hit. This time it was *The Sting*, which also starred Robert Shaw. *Parade* reported that Redford signed on first, followed by Hill and then Newman, who, "exuding enough wit and charm to win anyone's confidence, plays Henry Gondorff, the seasoned con who knows all the angle." *The Sting* went on to be a huge critical and popular success, and won 1974's Oscar for Best Picture.

CHARMS BLOW POPS

VALUE BAG
BLOW POP

The "candy with gum inside" was invented in 1966 but sold as the Charms Blow Pop by the Charms Candy Company starting in 1973. It soon became a bestseller. **$8.50 for a 45-count bag of assorted flavors, amazon.com**

Shrinky Dinks
25

SHRINKY DINKS

Thank two housewives (and their Cub Scout troop) in Wisconsin for inventing Shrinky Dinks, those little disks of polystyrene that can be decorated and shrunk with heat to create jewelry or other craft projects. **$11 for 25 clear sheets, amazon.com**

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: RAYMOND HALL/GC IMAGES; GREGG DEGUIRE/FILMMAGIC/GETTY IMAGES; EMMA MCINTYRE/GETTY IMAGES; JON KOPALOFF/GETTY IMAGES; JERRITT CLARK/GETTY IMAGES FOR WRIGHT PRODUCTIONS; DANA NALBANDIAN/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES; SAMIR HUSSEIN/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES; FRAZER HARRISON/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES; GERALD MATZKA/PICTURE ALLIANCE VIA GETTY IMAGES; D DIPASUPIL/GETTY IMAGES FOR AWXII; FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES; TODD OWYOUNG/NBC/GETTY IMAGES; JON KOPALOFF/GETTY IMAGES; KEVIN MAZUR/GETTY IMAGES FOR ACADEMY MUSEUM OF MOTION PICTURES; UNIVERSAL PICTURES/ALAMY

HAPPY NEW YEAR

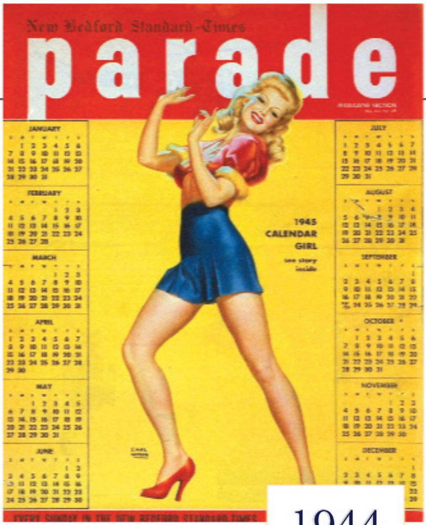
FROM *PARADE*!

For 81 years, *Parade* has been here to help readers ring in the New Year—with calendar girls, plump babies (a symbol of rebirth), confetti and bubbly, a toast to New Year's Eve bandleader Guy Lombardo and many, many resolutions to live by (including a few from Ellen DeGeneres). Here's what we found in the *Parade* vault. —*Anne Krueger*

Yakima Sunday Herald
PARADE
HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

1961

The women on the cover of *Parade* magazine were young actresses—Constance Towers, Danielle De Metz and Jody Warner—on the set of the *Adventures in Paradise* TV series. *Parade*'s photographer handed each one a prop that together spelled out the magazine's message to readers.


New Bedford Standard-Times
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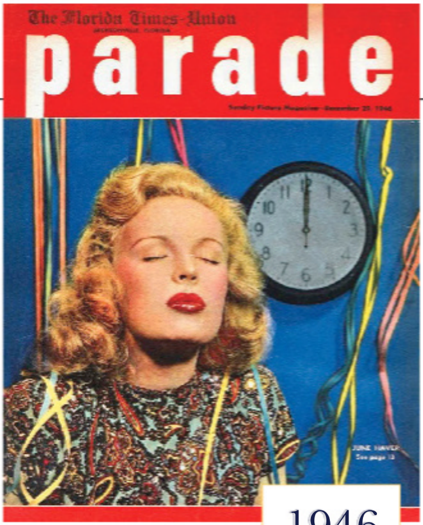
1945
CALENDAR
GIRL
see story
inside
EVERY SUNDAY IN THE NEW BEDFORD STANDARD-TIMES

1944


The Florida Times-Union
parade

1946

Herald American
parade
1946
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
EVERY SUNDAY IN THE HERALD-AMERICAN

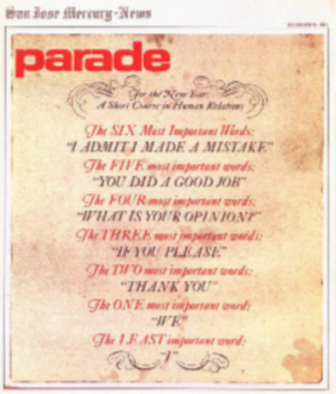
1945

Talk about starting the New Year with a bang: This *Parade* cover showcased a mischievous young man about to use his lit cigarette to pop the party balloon his date is blowing up.

The Macon Telegraph
Parade

1959

Meet Nancy Wakefield. She's the Orange Bowl Queen getting ready for that New Year's tradition: football!



San Jose Mercury-News

parade

For the New Year:
A Short Course in Human Relations

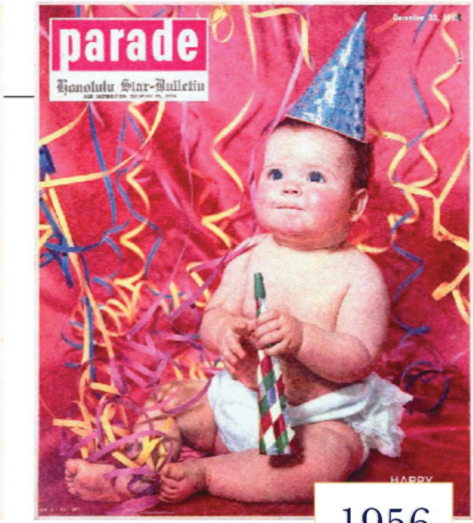
The SIX Most Important Words:
"I ADMIT I MADE A MISTAKE"
The FIVE most important words:
"YOU DID A GOOD JOB"
The FOUR most important words:
"WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?"
The THREE most important words:
"IF YOU PLEASE"
The TWO most important words:
"THANK YOU"
The ONE most important word:
"WE"
The LEAST important word:
"I"

1971

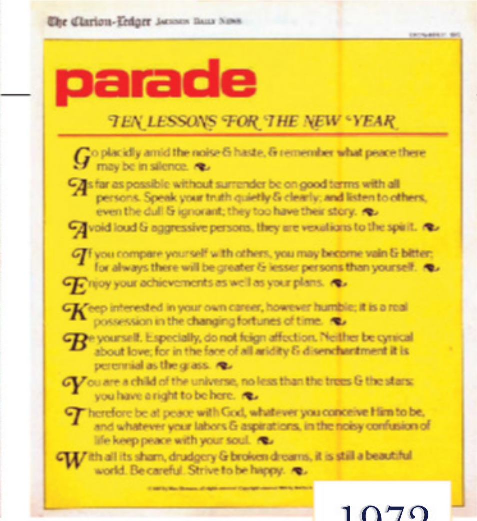
Consideration of the other fellow and ability to admit one's mistakes are two highly important factors to successful living, according to *Parade*. In observance of the New Year, the magazine presented a short course in human relations that "should contribute to a happy and prosperous 1972." More "we" and less "I" was one of the key lessons.

parade
THE SUNDAY ENTERPRISE
1954 JANUARY

1953



1956


The Clarion-Ledger Jackson Daily News

parade

TEN LESSONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Go placidly amid the noise & haste, & remember what peace there may be in silence.

As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly & clearly; and listen to others, even the dull & ignorant; they too have their story.

Avoid loud & aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain & bitter; for always there will be greater & lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.

Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity & disenchantment it is perennial as the grass.

You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees & the stars; you have a right to be here.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors & aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery & broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

1972

Guy Lombardo: Did He Invent New Year's Eve?

DECEMBER 28, 1969

Bandleader Lombardo didn't invent New Year's Eve, but for 40 years (since 1929) he'd had such a monopoly on ushering in the new year over the airwaves that one critic wrote, "Should Guy Lombardo and the Royal Canadians ever have their strains of 'Auld Lang Syne' stilled on New Year's Eve, a fearful hush would fall over the entire country." In 1969, the musician, 67, was keeping up with the times by playing popular songs like The Beatles' "Yesterday" in his romantic big-band style. For $50 a person, fans could join Lombardo at the Waldorf Astoria hotel to welcome in 1970.

The Huntsville Times
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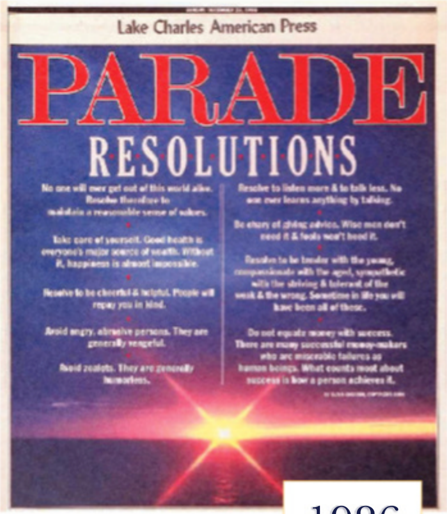
GUY LOMBARDO
Did He Invent New Year's Eve?
also Personality Parade, Intelligence Report, Youth Notes
NEW YEAR
NEW


Lake Charles American Press

PARADE

RESOLUTIONS

No one will ever get out of this world alive. Resolve therefore to maintain a reasonable sense of values.

Take care of yourself. Good health is everyone's major source of wealth. Without it, happiness is almost impossible.

Resolve to be cheerful & helpful. People will repay you in kind.

Avoid angry, abrasive persons. They are generally vengeful.

Avoid zealots. They are generally humorless.

Resolve to listen more & to talk less. No one ever learns anything by talking.

Be chary of giving advice. Wise men don't need it & fools won't heed it.

Resolve to be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving & tolerant of the weak & the wrong. Sometime in life you will have been all of these.

Do not equate money with success. There are many successful money-makers who are miserable failures as human beings. What counts most about success is how a person achieves it.

1986

PARADE
The best & worst of everything
Memorable moments of 2006
Plus The quirkiest stories you didn't see
My no-fail guide to New Year's resolutions
(...and do-overs)
By Ellen DeGeneres

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to sign up for daily stories.

My No-Fail Guide to New Year's Resolutions

DECEMBER 31, 2006

When Ellen DeGeneres pens a list of resolutions, you expect it to be funny—and it was in this *Parade* article (she's toasting with milk on the cover). But some of her advice in 2006 was surprisingly practical. "Remember that resolutions don't always have to be about fixing what's wrong with you," she wrote. "You also can use them to celebrate what's right with you." DeGeneres was celebrating how she'd used hypnosis to help quit smoking. When it came to most people's number 1 goal (get moving), she wisely suggested that "Hold off on exercise" be a resolution and that all fitness activity be deferred until midyear when the weather would be better. She also recommended writing resolutions in lemon juice on parchment, which makes it invisible to the naked eye unless you hold a lit candle behind it. "That's just for fun," she wrote. "It makes you feel like a pirate."

Live Smart

Go to ***Parade.com/retire*** to find out how ten couples picked their dream destination.

HOW TO RETIRE ABROAD

Here's how one couple moved to Portugal and lived happily ever after.

BY MELANIE HAIKEN

When **Bob** and **Tina Dameron** first began thinking about moving to Portugal, it seemed like a crazy idea. The next thing they knew they were applying for Portuguese resident visas, selling their house in San Diego and buying a 100-year-old farmhouse in Praia da Luz, a village of just 3,000 on the Algarve peninsula a few miles from Lagos.

It all started when the Damerons' daughter Adrienne and her husband Joe moved to Portugal in early 2020 with their daughter, Havana. While the younger couple envisioned a yearlong reset from their high-pressure jobs in Los Angeles, they decided to stay longer. "We began asking ourselves, do we want to be so distant from our only grandchild?" Tina Dameron, 63, says. "Meanwhile we were ready for a new adventure."

The decision became easier when the Damerons visited and fell in love with Portugal themselves. "I retired on April 16, 2021, and we were on a plane April 21st," Bob Dameron, 64, says. By September they were closing on the farmhouse and embarking on an ambitious restoration project, which includes putting in a large vegetable garden. In December they spent their first night in their new home.

The Damerons, who are still American citizens, have spent time during the past year exploring the Algarve and visiting the Alentejo region and its capital city of Evora, a UNESCO world heritage city (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization designates sites with cultural, historical or scientific significance). They have also visited Porto, the Douro Valley wine country, the castle-studded hill town of Sintra and plan to visit Aveiro, known for its canals and gondola-like boats.

They're studying Portuguese and have immersed themselves in learning about Portuguese wine. "They have more than 200 native varietals, and the entire country is made up of different wine regions," Bob says enthusiastically.

While they do miss their friends back home, the Damerons say the transition has been surprisingly easy thanks to the welcoming locals and a lively community of expats from around the world.

And they love the rugged beauty of the Portuguese coast, which reminds them of California with its craggy cliffs, crashing waves and sheltered beaches. "Tina and I were raised in Santa Cruz, and we remember when you could go to the beaches and there was hardly anyone there. Here it's still like that," Bob says.

"There's a realness about Portugal, a pride in their history and an appreciation for who and what they are," Tina says. "It's not at all a consumer culture, and I find it really refreshing. It's a wonderful place to step back from our hectic American lives."

NEED-TO-KNOWS

VISA The Damerons got a Visa called a D7, also known as the Retirement Visa or the Passive Income Visa. It requires them to live in Portugal six months of the year.

HEALTHCARE Many retirees abroad keep paying Medicare and return to the U.S. for services and care during annual visits.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND TAXES American expats receive social security and continue to pay U.S. taxes on it.

CITIZENSHIP The Damerons are U.S. citizens but can apply for dual citizenship in Portugal after a certain number of years residing there.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB AND TINA DAMERON

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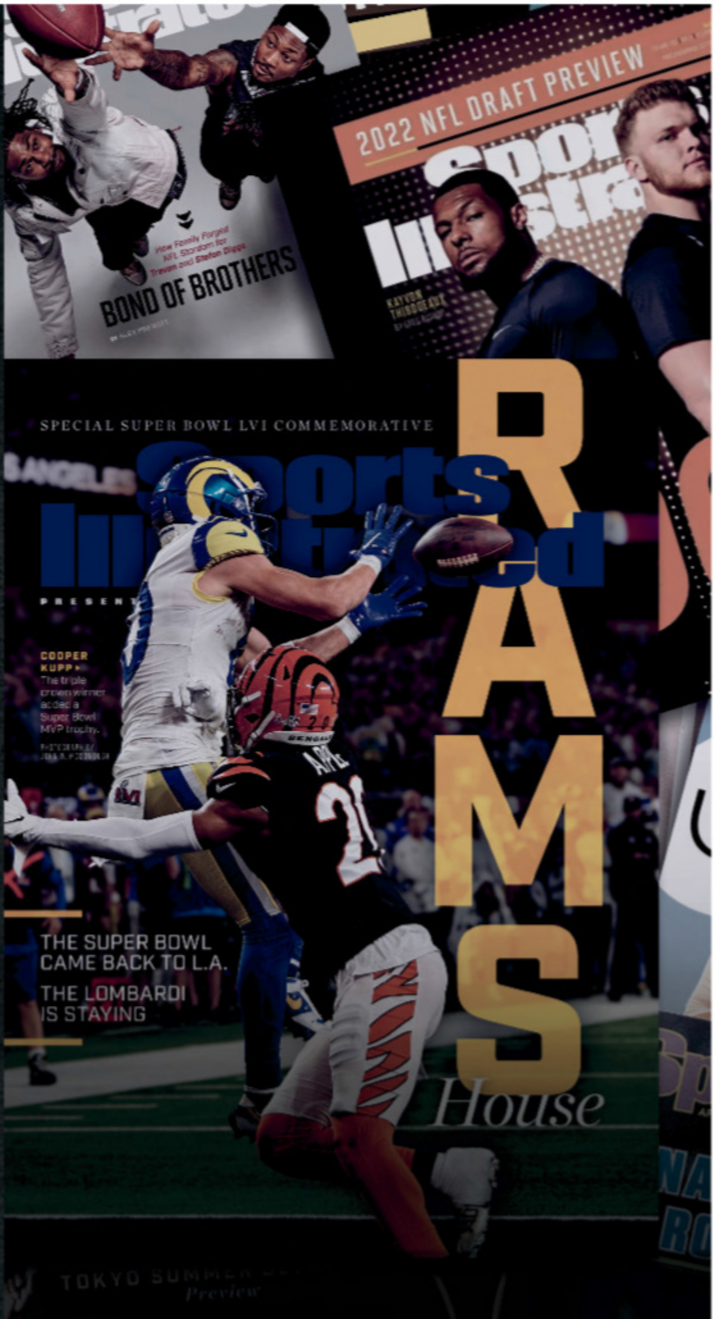
BOND OF BROTHERS
How Family Forged NFL Stardom for Trevon and Stefon Diggs
2022 NFL DRAFT PREVIEW
SPECIAL SUPER BOWL LVI COMMEMORATIVE
Sports Illustrated
COOPER KUPP
THE SUPER BOWL CAME BACK TO L.A.
THE LOMBARDI IS STAYING
RAMS House
TOKYO SUMMER

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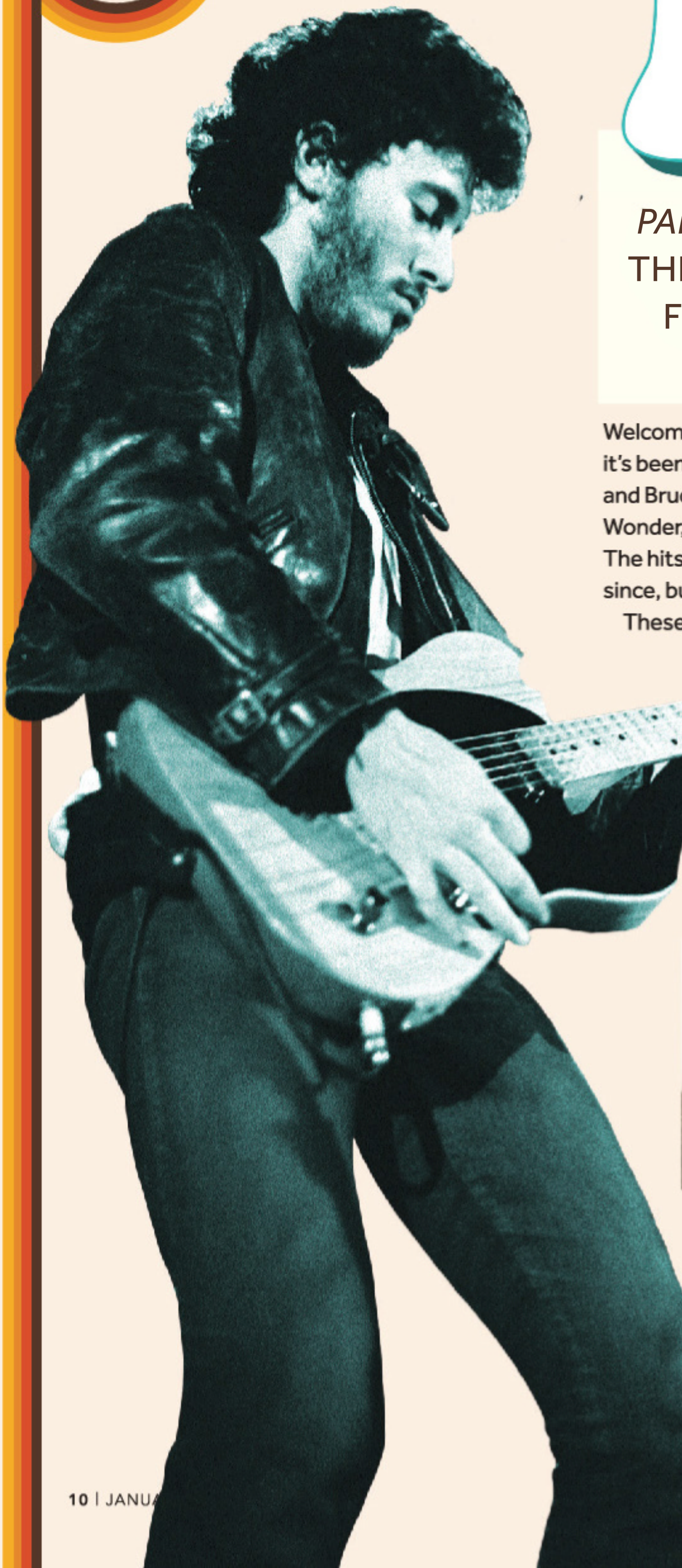


1973

PARADE REVEALS THE STORIES BEHIND 15 OF THE YEAR'S MOST UNFORGETTABLE SONGS—FROM "PIANO MAN" TO "LET'S GET IT ON."

BY JIM FARBER

Welcome back to 1973, a very good year for fantastic music. It's hard to believe that it's been 50 years since the debuts by artists as enduring as Billy Joel, Aerosmith and Bruce Springsteen. And a half century has passed since performers like Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight & the Pips and the solo Ringo Starr were at their sales peaks. The hits those artists generated in that year haven't left the culture for a minute since, but the stories behind those songs have often been forgotten.

These are the tales behind 15 of 1973's biggest hits:

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

"BLINDED BY THE LIGHT"

Only one Springsteen song has ever topped the singles chart, but it wasn't the Boss's version that did it. His 1973 recording didn't even chart. Only when **Manfred Mann's Earth Band** covered it four years later did "Blinded by the Light" become a smash. Several changes Mann made have been given credit for the success. First, he added a piano part that mimicked "Chopsticks," creating a maddeningly catchy hook. Then, the band's singer, Chris Thompson, pronounced a word in the song—"deuce"—in a way that made it sound like a feminine hygiene product. Radio stations in the South refused to play a song with that word so Mann's record company said he had to change it. Due to technical issues, however, they couldn't do so without making it sound even stranger. The result turned out to be a boon. "So many people came up to us after and said, 'You know what made it No.1?'" Mann told *Record Collector* magazine. "Everyone was trying to figure out whether it was 'deuce' or 'douche.'"

COVER CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MEDIANEWS GROUP/READING EAGLE VIA GETTY IMAGES; MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES; ABC PHOTO ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES; JIM BRITT/MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES; FIN COSTELLO/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; GEMS/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; FRANK EDWARDS/FOTOS INTERNATIONAL/GETTY IMAGES; FEATURE FROM LEFT: MEDIANEWS GROUP/READING EAGLE VIA GETTY IMAGES; CHRIS WALTER/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES

PINK FLOYD

"MONEY"

"Money…is the root of all evil today," sang Roger Waters in a song that made him fantastically wealthy. In fact, getting rich was very much on his mind at the time. "Money interested me enormously," he told the British newspaper *The Daily Telegraph*. "I was coveting a Bentley like crazy. The only way to get something like that was through rock or the football pools."

The particular way Waters got his wealth was by creating a hook listeners couldn't get out of their heads. The one in "Money" cleverly sifted together a series of sound effects—rattling coins, a ringing cash register and a ticking counting machine—into a rhythm no one could resist. That, combined with the song's wailing guitar and grinding sax solo, made "Money" the first track to hit off *The Dark Side of the Moon*, an album that went on to sell an estimated 45 million copies. *Dark Side* stubbornly remained on the Billboard chart for nearly 1,000 weeks, generating enough lucre to buy Waters fresh Bentleys every year for the rest of his life if he wanted them.

MARVIN GAYE

"LET'S GET IT ON"

One of the sexiest songs ever recorded originally addressed something far more troubling. The initial version, penned by Ed Townsend, expressed his need to overcome his alcoholism. While Gaye loved the song's melody, he convinced Townsend to let him recast the words to reflect his romantic feelings at the time for Janis Hunter, who would later become his second wife and the mother of two of his children. Gaye sang the song directly to Hunter in the studio, which, no doubt, enhanced the sensuality of the performance that in turn helped make "Let's Get It On" Motown's best-selling single to that date.

FROM TOP: MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES; JIM BRITT/MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES

STEVE MILLER

"THE JOKER"

Few phrases in pop history have invited more amused head-scratching than the reference in "The Joker" to "the pompatus of love." Luckily for Miller, that strange phrase fascinated listeners as much as it confounded them. They were drawn, too, by Miller's self-referential puzzle of lyrics that alluded to "the space cowboy," "the gangster of love" and "Maurice," all of which echoed titles of earlier songs by the star. As to the lineage of "pompatus," a similar word turned up in a 1954 hit by the doo-wop group The Medallions.

Miller himself had a cheekier take on it. During his induction speech at the Songwriters of Hall of Fame in 2022 he alluded to the word by saying "My attorney is here tonight, and he will explain exactly what it is and how much it costs when you say it."

Love Neil Diamond? Go to ***Parade.com/songs*** for the stories behind his greatest hits.

FROM TOP: GIJSBERT HANEKROOT/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES/GETTY IMAGES

BILLY JOEL

"PIANO MAN"

The lowest period in Billy Joel's career inspired the song he may be best known for. After signing a terrible contract for his first album, *Cold Spring Harbor*, the New York-based Joel hid out in Los Angeles where he performed under the fake name Bill Martin. (The star's real full name is William Martin Joel). For six months, Joel sang at a small lounge while his new label, Columbia, finagled to get him out of his old deal. The song's lyrics feature the characters he met while he performed there, from the failed novelist Paul to Davy "who's still in the Navy." Sad as aspects of their lives may have been, the narrator's music helps them "forget about life for a while." The vividness of the tale, and the sing-along chorus, helped make "Piano Man" Joel's first Top 40 hit and, eventually, his signature piece.

CHER

“HALF BREED”

When Cher’s song about a young woman who is shunned for her mixed-race identity came out 50 years ago, no one talked about things like “cultural appropriation.” Today, however, there might be controversy over an artist who has a dubious connection to Native American culture recording a song about the child of a Cherokee woman and a white father. While Cher has claimed she is 1/16th Cherokee on her mother’s side, this has never been verified. Either way, the writers of the song clearly had no knowledge of the culture. In Cherokee society, a child born to a mother from the tribe would be fully accepted by it. Then again, it’s hard to imagine anyone taking such a delightfully silly song seriously enough to get worked up about all this. Cher herself has dismissed any criticisms and continues to perform the song in her show. Anyone who wants to hear a version of “Half-Breed” recorded by someone slightly better connected to Indigenous culture can look to a 1990 take by Shania Twain. Her stepfather is an Ojibwe Native American.

AEROSMITH

“DREAM ON”

While “Dream On” rates as one of the most popular power ballads of all time, it barely made a blip when it appeared as Aerosmith’s debut single in 1973. Only radio stations in the group’s hometown of Boston recognized its brilliance. *Rolling Stone* magazine didn’t even review the corresponding album it came from. In fact, two full years passed before “Dream On” became a Top Ten hit, after grueling work on the road. The song itself had an even longer incubation. Singer Steven Tyler wrote the music for it when he was 17, inspired by the classical works played by his father, a Julliard-trained pianist. He came up with the lyrics even earlier—at 14—but they proved prophetic: “Dream On” made Aerosmith’s dreams come true.

RINGO STARR

“PHOTOGRAPH”

Starr’s first No. 1 solo hit doubled as his first official writing collaboration with another ex-Beatle: George Harrison. At the same time, there was considerable tension between the two during that era. Harrison had a brief affair with Starr’s then wife, Maureen. (Harrison’s spouse, Pattie Boyd, found the pair in bed.) Though Starr initially threatened to divorce Maureen, the marriage lasted another few years, and his friendship with Harrison quickly recovered. The guitarist went on to write more songs for the drummer. In a tribute concert to Harrison after his death, Starr performed “Photograph” and, witnesses say, it left few dry eyes in the house.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: JEFFREY MAYER/WIREIMAGE/GETTY IMAGES; MICHAEL PUTLAND/GETTY IMAGES; CBS VIA GETTY IMAGES

ELTON JOHN

"CANDLE IN THE WIND"

Everyone knows that John's sentimental ballad paid homage to Marilyn Monroe. But that wasn't the only inspiration for Bernie Taupin's lyrical ode. "The song could just as easily have been written about James Dean or Jim Morrison or Kurt Cobain," John later said. "Basically, anybody who died young. It's beauty frozen in time."

Taupin borrowed the song title's phrase from record mogul Clive Davis, who used it to describe Janis Joplin after her death in 1970. Popular as the song may have been in '73, it wasn't issued as a single then. A live version, cut 15 years later, was the one that broke Billboard's Top Ten. The song did even better a decade later in the version John and Taupin created for their close friend Princess Diana after her death. For that recording, they changed the opening from "Goodbye, Norma Jean" to "Goodbye, English Rose." The resulting song did even better in the U.S. than in Diana's U.K. home. Stateside, it held the No. 1 spot for 14 weeks, while in Britain it lasted five. The Diana version went on to become the second biggest-selling single of all time after Bing Crosby's "White Christmas."

GLADYS KNIGHT

"MIDNIGHT TRAIN TO GEORGIA"

In its original form, Knight's signature song made no reference to the state of Georgia. Initially, songwriter Jim Weatherly entitled his piece, "Midnight Plane to Houston," inspired by an evocative phrase used by his friend, actress Farrah Fawcett, in a conversation with her husband at the time, Lee Majors. Weatherly first cut the song himself in a country version, but about a year later, he got a call that Cissy Houston (Whitney's mom) wanted to record it with an R&B flair. To avoid the redundancy between her surname and the title city, she asked if she could change the destination to Georgia. Weatherly said yes, so long as she didn't change anything else. While Cissy's version didn't connect, it caught the ear of Knight, whose emotive take gave her group its first No. 1 smash. They scored two other hits that year—"Neither One of Us" and "I've Got to Use My Imagination"—making 1973 the Pips' peak season.

FROM TOP: DAVID WARNER ELLIS/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; ABC PHOTO ARCHIVES/DISNEY GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT CONTENT VIA GETTY IMAGES

PAUL McCARTNEY AND WINGS

"LIVE AND LET DIE"

McCartney scored a number of firsts with his theme for the Bond film *Live and Let Die*. It was the first 007 song to hit No. 1, the first created by a rock artist and the first to be nominated for the Best Original Song Oscar. (It lost to Barbra Streisand's "The Way We Were.") The producers of Bond first asked McCartney to write the theme for the previous film in the franchise, *Diamonds Are Forever*, but contractual issues prevented that. When they sent the musician the script for the new film two years later, he was initially flummoxed. "I thought, *The hardest thing to do here is to work in that title*," he told *Mojo* magazine in 2010. Once he got his head around the fact that the title really meant "live and let live," the music flowed. Another potential issue arose when the producers wanted Shirley Bassey (of "Goldfinger" fame) to perform it instead of Wings. McCartney said they couldn't have the song unless he sang it. The result proved so successful that McCartney has kept it in his live set ever since.

EDGAR WINTER

"FRANKENSTEIN"

Fans have long wondered where Winter's instrumental smash got its title. Many thought it derived from its monstrously heavy beat. In fact, it had to do with the song's construction. The original, improvised version of "Frankenstein" went on forever, so hacking it into a digestible form took no small amount of musical surgery. "Back in those days, when you edited something, you had to physically cut the tape and splice it back together," Winter told Songfacts.com. "We were making fun of how to put it back together. And, at one point, my drummer, Chuck Ruff, said 'it's like Frankenstein.'" "That's it,'" said Winter. "The monster was born."

TONY ORLANDO & DAWN

"TIE A YELLOW RIBBON ROUND THE OLE' OAK TREE"

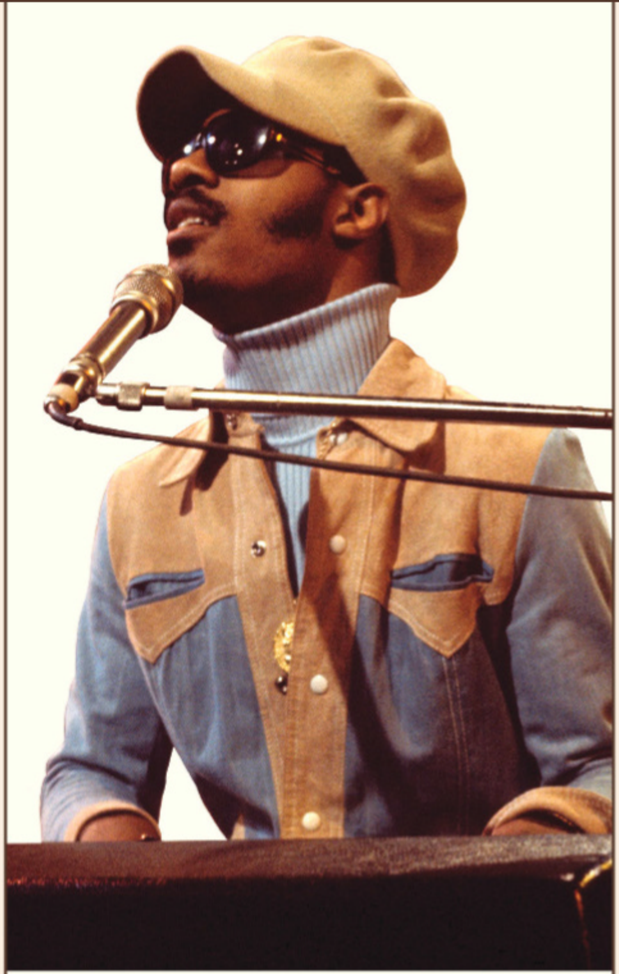
Everyone loves a song that tells a story. But few have proven as impactful as the tale of the yellow ribbon. Inspiration came from a 1971 story in the *New York Post* by Pete Hamill entitled "Going Home" in which some kids on a bus meet a man who just got out of jail. He tells them of a letter he sent his wife asking her to tie a yellow handkerchief around a tree as a sign that she wanted to take him back. If he didn't see the handkerchief, he would move on. In the original story, the tree he sees is draped in yellow. The writers of the song changed the handkerchief to a more musical word—ribbon—and greatly upped the number of them choking the tree. In the decades since, the yellow ribbon has become an oft-employed symbol of remembrance and welcome, first used to greet soldiers returning from the Vietnam War. In 1980, many used them to remember the U.S. hostages in Iran.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MICHAEL PUTLAND/GETTY IMAGES; GAB ARCHIVE/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; FRED A. SABINE/NBCU PHOTO BANK/GETTY IMAGES

LYNYRD SKYNYRD

"FREE BIRD"

One of the most celebrated guitar anthems of all time became even better known as a punch line. For decades, countless concertgoers have been randomly shouting unsolicited song requests for Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Free Bird" no matter who happens to be performing on stage at the time. So, how did this wacky tradition begin? Three years after the studio version of the song appeared, Skynyrd recorded a live album, *One More from The Road*, during which singer Ronnie Van Zant asked the crowd "What song is it you wanna hear?" In unison, they screamed "Free Bird," inspiring a frenzied 14-and-a-half-minute version of the song. Fans have been imitating that entreaty as a joke ever since. You can hear someone shout for it on the full version of Nirvana's 1993 *MTV Unplugged* set. And, just this past July, at a Jackson Browne concert in New York, a fan shouted the time-honored request, which caused the singer to quip: "The strange thing is, somehow that's still funny."



STEVIE WONDER

"LIVING FOR THE CITY"

Few songs that dare to address racism with the unflinching honesty of "Living for the City" have become major hits. But the passion of Wonder's music, combined with the power of his vocals, helped send his song sailing into the Top 10. As Wonder himself told the website Songfacts, "I think the deepest I really got into how I feel about the way things are was in 'Living for the City.' I was able to show the hurt and the anger."

He even managed to do so in the abridged version that became the single. The full, seven-minute version on the album goes further, using shocking language that was later sampled by the rap group Public Enemy. The recording also stood out for its inventive use of sampled street sounds, including honking cars, blaring sirens and everyday conversations. Small wonder the classic album it appeared on, *Innervisions*—which also featured the funk smash "Higher Ground"—nabbed the 1973 "Album of Year" Grammy. P

FROM TOP: DAVID REDFERN/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; GEMS/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES

Ask Marilyn

BY MARILYN VOS SAVANT

Find solutions to Marilyn's puzzles and this week's Numbrix on the next page!

Send questions to
marilyn@parade.com

Numbrix®

Complete 1 to 81 so the numbers follow a horizontal or vertical path—no diagonals.

3		9		41		45		47
5								51
21								61
25								63
27		77		75		73		65

For more Numbrix puzzles, go to ***Parade.com/numbrix***.

> I attended a concert at an indoor arena where the crowd was dancing and jumping, and I felt very uneasy as the floor was vibrating through to the halls in the upper tier where I was getting food. Are these concrete structures built to withstand huge crowds that are not just sitting, but leaping around?
>
> –Kathy Kramer, Clinton, New Jersey

The short answer is "no." From the outset, the safety of the structures starts with their architects, who comply with the building codes then in effect in the area. The architects try to think of everything, but they (and those who write the building codes) are limited by what is known and available at the time.

However old or new the buildings are, let's fast-forward to today. You could compare the crowd shaking a building to a minor earthquake, which is clearly felt but rarely causes damage. Seismic provisions to local building codes vary greatly from state to state and may not even be enforced, depending on certain circumstances. For example, newly written codes commonly don't apply to buildings already in existence, which is the case with a great many venues. Some updates may be possible over time, but most are not.

This doesn't mean that older buildings are less safe. Having stood the test of time, they may indeed be more safe. Design flaws are more likely to be found in newer buildings.

Overall, you're very likely to be safe in a large public building, especially in this country, but you can't count on designs or building codes to assure it.

CLASSIC ASK MARILYN

MARILYN'S WORD TEASER

JANUARY 22, 1995

This week's word is OSCULATE
What's the definition?

A. To kiss.

B. To waver back and forth.

C. To escalate a battle of wits.

D. To remove bones from a chicken.

ISTOCK

Ask Marilyn

BY MARILYN VOS SAVANT

SOLUTIONS

A QUESTION OF HONOR

This 1980s Ask Marilyn question (and answer) really got readers going.

Dear Marilyn,
I've read that "vos Savant" is actually your mother's name. Why don't you use your father's name?

—John McCarthy, Lubbock, Texas

Dear John,
Here's just a partial list of items that carry men's names: airports (John F. Kennedy), buildings (Trump Tower), cities (Cleveland), film companies (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer), museums (John Paul Getty), racetracks (Churchill Downs), religions (Lutheran), rivers (Hudson), and I could fill page after page, including some of the most important corporations on the planet. All this makes sense to me, and men deserve this credit. However, I can think of nothing that women deserve to have their names on more than their children. The injustice of this cannot be overestimated.

MARILYN'S WORD TEASER

The answer is A. To osculate is to kiss. (To "oscillate" is to move back and forth, like a fan.)

Numbrix®

January 1, 2022

3	2	9	10	41	42	45	46	47
4	1	8	11	40	43	44	49	48
5	6	7	12	39	56	55	50	51
20	19	18	13	38	57	54	53	52
21	22	17	14	37	58	59	60	61
24	23	16	15	36	35	70	69	62
25	30	31	32	33	34	71	68	63
26	29	78	79	80	81	72	67	64
27	28	77	76	75	74	73	66	65

SOME OF THE FOLLOW-UP RESPONSES MARILYN GOT:

There are plenty of things already named after women—ships, hurricanes, horses and dogs are just a few.

—William Reno, Sandy, Utah

Do you have something against your father? Why don't you wish to honor him?

—Anonymous, Rockville, Maryland

But women have no names. They are only using names of the males in their lives (either fathers or spouses).

—Mickey LaCross, Shelton, Connecticut

MARILYN RESPONDED:

One at a time! My father (who passed away a few years ago) was an absolute dear; I loved him when he was alive and I love him still. I took my mother's maiden name as an adult, and it delighted him. (And yes, I would have done it even if he hadn't been delighted.)

The argument that "women have no names" is selectively lopsided logic. Why do men have names then? That is, if a woman doesn't have a name (because it's "her father's"), then a man doesn't have one, either (because it's his father's). And why should fathers themselves be considered to have names? (They have fathers too!)

And as far as honor is concerned, my mother is now finally getting what she's due. (Thanks, Mom!)

Clockwise from left: Marina vos Savant (mother), Joseph Mach (father), Marilyn vos Savant, Joe Mach, Bob Mach (brothers).

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARILYN VOS SAVANT

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